

# OREGON CROP WEATHER



Oregon  
Agricultural  
Statistics  
Service

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**Weather:** Weather conditions across Oregon last week were mostly very warm and dry, with very little precipitation. With the exception of the coastal areas, where high temperatures ranged from 64 to 73 degrees, highs were in the nineties. Low temperatures were mostly in the forties and fifties, but in Christmas Valley, Redmond, Worden, Baker City, and LaGrande lows were in the upper thirties. Precipitation was minimal during the reference period. There were only eight weather stations that reported precipitation last week.

**Field Crops:** Grain and grass seed harvest was winding down in most areas last week. As of August 21<sup>st</sup>, 95 percent of the winter wheat crop had been harvested statewide. In addition to finishing up harvest, producers were busy putting up hay, tilling, and preparing fields for next year. In Washington County, most grass seed fields have been harvested and the straw has been baled. Mice and voles have caused problems in many Oregon grass seed fields this summer.

**Livestock, Range and Pasture:** Pastures and rangeland continued to dry up across the State. Some areas reported pasture forage was about gone and supplemental feeding was common. Irrigated pastures were reported in good condition. Some cattle being turned onto unharvested grain acres. Considering the heat, most cattle are in good condition.

**Nurseries and Greenhouses:** Summer maintenance activities continued for the nursery industry along with a lot of irrigation. Greenhouses are getting ready for fall plants. Most growers are planning to attend the Farwest Nursery Show in Portland from August 25 to 27. This is one of the biggest nursery shows in the USA with over 850 exhibitors and more

than 450 growers. Christmas tree growers were finishing up shearing of trees.

**Vegetables:** Vegetable crops were in full production across the State. Various vegetable diseases were showing up in Benton, Linn, and Lane counties. Truck gardeners were doing brisk business selling all of the summer vegetable crops. Sweet corn harvest started in Marion County. Washington County reported sweet corn showing silk and filling ears. Green beans continue to be harvested and sent to processors. Potatoes were 80 percent turned and 10 percent knocked down in Klamath County.

**Fruits and Nuts:** Northern Willamette Valley blackberries, blueberries, peaches and nectarines were picked. Some pears were near picking stage and some early apples were available. There have been some field verifications of prunes being 100% loss in Polk County. Many Barcelona hazelnut orchards have blank nuts falling from the trees. Brown stain on hazelnuts is apparent in many orchards. The southern Willamette Valley hazelnut crop looks lighter than the previous two years, but the size of the hazelnuts looks very nice. Peaches continue to be a good crop. Some apples and pears were available. Hot weather has affected the size of blueberries. Summer pear harvest continued in many lower Hood River Valley orchards and began in mid-valley orchards. Fruit growers in the upper valley prepared for harvest. Pear harvest was underway throughout southern Oregon. Commercial blueberry harvest was complete.

**Soil Moisture-Week Ending 08/21/05**

|         | <b>Very short</b> | <b>Short</b>   | <b>Adequate</b> | <b>Surplus</b> |
|---------|-------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|
|         | <i>Percent</i>    | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i>  | <i>Percent</i> |
| Topsoil | 27                | 52             | 21              | 0              |
| Subsoil | 23                | 53             | 24              | 0              |

**Crop Progress-Week Ending 08/21/05**

| <b>Crop</b>                 | <b>This week</b> | <b>Last week</b> | <b>Last year</b> | <b>5 year average</b> |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
|                             | <i>Percent</i>   | <i>Percent</i>   | <i>Percent</i>   | <i>Percent</i>        |
| Winter wheat harvested      | 95               | 88               | 91               | 93                    |
| Barley harvested            | 85               | 83               | 72               | 75                    |
| Spring wheat harvested      | 81               | 77               | 78               | 81                    |
| Days suitable for fieldwork | 6.9              | 7.0              | 6.5              | 6.9                   |

**Crop Condition-Week Ending 08/21/05**

| <b>Crop</b>       | <b>Very poor</b> | <b>Poor</b>    | <b>Fair</b>    | <b>Good</b>    | <b>Excellent</b> |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
|                   | <i>Percent</i>   | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i> | <i>Percent</i>   |
| Range and pasture | 2                | 11             | 38             | 42             | 7                |

## WESTERN OREGON

**BENTON/LINN/LANE:** Some field burning going on. Fields in preparation for 2006. Yield reports have been mixed. Grass seed yields are 20-40% lower. Speciality seed crops planted during the spring are 50% lower. Wheat yields are average, and peppermint yields are above average. Reports indicate that the hazelnut crop looks lighter than the previous two years, but the size of hazelnuts look very nice. Dryland pastures have been taken over by voles. Lots of disease and insect damage in apples. Nice peach crop so far. There are a few pears here and there. Hot weather has affected the size of blueberries; they are smaller than normal. Some day neutral strawberries are still producing. Vegetable crops are in full production; continue to see various vegetable diseases showing up. Greenhouse and nursery crops are slowing down.

**CLACKAMAS:** Grain harvest is drawing to a close. Evergreen blackberry picking still in volume. Other berry fields being renovated. Summer vegetables are available in good quantities for fresh market and processing. Irrigation is a primary focus for most nurseries. Some nurseries are preparing for the Far West Show. As the pastures deteriorate, many operators are beginning supplemental feeding. Most livestock are in good condition.

**COOS/CURRY:** Growing degree days dropped 22 GDD at Brookings-Harbor from the previous week but were little changed at Bandon. Days since precipitation of 0.25" or more at Bandon: 65 days, at Brookings-Harbor: 64 days. Average air temperatures at coastal AgriMet weather stations ranged from 55.2 at Brookings-Harbor to 57.4 deg F at Bandon; highs ranged from 71.5 at Brookings-Harbor to 72.2 deg F at Bandon, and lows ranged from 49.5 at Bandon to 51.8 deg F at Brookings-Harbor. Precipitation ranged from 0.00" at Bandon to 0.01" at Brookings-Harbor. Growing degree days (base 50 deg F) ranged from 44 GDD at Brookings-Harbor to 58 GDD at Bandon.

**HOOD RIVER:** Summer pear harvest continued in many lower Hood River Valley orchards and began in mid-valley orchards. Fruit growers in the upper valley prepared for harvest.

**JACKSON:** Hot and dry. High temperatures were in the 90's with low temperatures in the 50's and 60's. Second cutting alfalfa is still being harvested. Livestock are hot, but doing ok. Most all dry land forage in the lower lying areas is gone. Mountain pastures are dry and some areas are starting to become short on feed. Irrigated pastures are doing well. Small grain harvest is 60-70% complete. Preparations for 2006 are underway. Bartlett pear harvest is underway on good sized pears. All of

the orchards in the valley have started harvesting.

**JOSEPHINE:** Blueberries are done for commercial sale in our area. There are a few of the later varieties still left but not enough for pickers and market. Truck gardeners are doing a brisk business in all the summer crops--beans, corn, tomatoes, melons, summer squash, cucumbers, eggplant, and peppers. It has been very hot and dry. We have had a fire burning in our area now for about a month. We probably won't get a second crop of hay off this year in most fields, but those under irrigation have managed to keep green. Lots of non-commercial pears, plums, and some apples in our area.

**MARION:** Sweet corn harvest has started. Except for a little bentgrass, the grass harvest is winding down. Some tillage work has begun. Wheat and grass seed harvest are finishing up with 7 suitable days for fieldwork. Mint harvest is well underway. Corn is in tassel and bush beans are being harvested. Weather allowed some crop residue burning. Soil moisture is short with minimal precipitation since mid-June.

**POLK:** There have been some field verifications of prunes being a 100% loss. Soil tillage has begun for fall planting of crops. Field corn is just now beginning to tassel. Weather has been good, however, night time temperatures have begun to resemble a fall pattern.

**WASHINGTON:** Combining beets for seed. Third cutting alfalfa getting close. Red clover setting seed. Field corn setting ears. Blueberries, blackberries and everbearing strawberries ongoing. Peaches and nectarines being picked. Apples are scarce. No prunes. Walnuts and filberts sizing. Some pears nearing picking stage. Sweet corn showing silk and filling ears with some appearance at roadside stands. Green beans for canneries ongoing. Baled and burlapped evergreen shrubs going transported. New settings being irrigated. Supplemental feed required for livestock. Most grass seed fields harvested and straw baled.

**YAMHILL:** Peach harvest continues. Early apple harvest is beginning. Many Barcelona hazelnut orchards have blank nuts falling from the trees. Brown stain on hazelnuts is apparent in many orchards. Reports of grass seed losses because of poor pollination and mice. Seems to be particular areas of the county that have been hit the hardest; south of McMinnville and west of Lafayette Highway. Sheridan area seems to be doing OK. Carlton, Yamhill and Newberg areas are getting average or above average yields. Also hearing reports of low wheat yields, as well as low test weight.

## **EASTERN OREGON**

**GILLIAM:** Harvest is beginning to wind down.

**HARNEY:** Hot and dry. Hay harvest is moving well.

**KLAMATH:** Potatoes are 80% turning and 10% knocked down. Most lower elevation rangeland (4000-6000 ft elevation) matured.

**SHERMAN:** As harvest winds down, attention turns to weed control in fallow and Russian thistle control in stubble or unharvested grain. Cattle getting turned in on some of the non-harvested acres. Plenty are out on vacation before the fair and school hit.

**UNION:** Extremely dry conditions. Some peppermint was harvested early due to lack of irrigation water.

**WALLOWA:** Hot, dry weather at the first of the week, but cooler temperatures towards the end gave some relief to producers and fire fighters. Dryland wheat yields are above average for fall wheat, but spring wheat planted after the rains in April and May is not looking too good. Barley is about average. Livestock producers are still hauling water.

**Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 21, 2005 (as of 11:00 am)**

| Station                       | Air temperature <sup>1</sup> |      |      |     | Growing <sup>2</sup><br>Degree days |     | Last week precip. <sup>3</sup> |       |      | Season cum. Precipitation <sup>4</sup> |        |                |      |  |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------|------|-----|-------------------------------------|-----|--------------------------------|-------|------|--|--------|----------------|------|--|
|                               | Low                          | High | Avg. | DFN | Total                               | DFN | Total<br>Inches                | DFN   | Days | Total<br>Inches                        | DFN    | Pct.<br>Normal | Days |  |
|                               |                              |      |      |     |                                     |     |                                |       |      |  |        |                |      |  |
| COASTAL AREAS                 |                              |      |      |     |                                     |     |                                |       |      |  |        |                |      |  |
| Astoria/Clatsop               | 53                           | 73   | 61   | +1  | 81                                  | +4  | 0.07                           | -0.23 | 2    | 61.11                                  | -4.65  | 93             | 185  |  |
| Bandon <sup>5</sup>           | 52                           | 72   | 59   | +2  | 65                                  | +2  | -                              | -0.23 | -    | 57.42                                  | -1.03  | 98             | 161  |  |
| Crescent City                 | 51                           | 64   | 56   | -3  | 46                                  | -17 | 0.02                           | -0.20 | 2    | 56.23                                  | -8.54  | 87             | 138  |  |
| Florence                      | 44                           | 71   | 60   | -2  | 68                                  | -9  | 0.02                           | -0.30 | 1    | 65.39                                  | -10.46 | 86             | 168  |  |
| Tillamook                     | 50                           | 69   | 59   | -1  | 64                                  | -1  | 0.16                           | -0.23 | 2    | 73.97                                  | -13.81 | 84             | 186  |  |
| WILLAMETTE VALLEY             |                              |      |      |     |                                     |     |                                |       |      |  |        |                |      |  |
| Aurora <sup>5</sup>           | 54                           | 92   | 70   | +4  | 142                                 | +29 | -                              | -0.21 | -    | 32.02                                  | -8.57  | 79             | 160  |  |
| Corvallis                     | -                            | -    | -    | -   | -                                   | -   | -                              | -     | -    | -                                      | -      | -              | -    |  |
| Detroit Lake <sup>5</sup>     | 51                           | 95   | 71   | +9  | 147                                 | +61 | -                              | -0.30 | -    | 41.63                                  | -25.34 | 62             | 115  |  |
| Eugene                        | 47                           | 93   | 69   | +2  | 134                                 | +10 | -                              | -0.27 | -    | 26.31                                  | -22.57 | 54             | 145  |  |
| Hillsboro                     | 49                           | 92   | 68   | +3  | 126                                 | +14 | -                              | -0.28 | -    | 26.56                                  | -10.57 | 72             | 157  |  |
| McMinnville                   | 50                           | 93   | 69   | +3  | 135                                 | +21 | -                              | -0.16 | -    | 25.03                                  | -17.79 | 58             | 158  |  |
| Portland                      | 58                           | 90   | 71   | +3  | 150                                 | +17 | -                              | -0.27 | -    | 28.03                                  | -7.78  | 78             | 161  |  |
| Salem                         | 52                           | 92   | 69   | +3  | 136                                 | +17 | -                              | -0.17 | -    | 26.65                                  | -12.15 | 69             | 141  |  |
| SW VALLEYS                    |                              |      |      |     |                                     |     |                                |       |      |  |        |                |      |  |
| Grants Pass                   | 56                           | 97   | 75   | +5  | 177                                 | +28 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 28.86                                  | -1.93  | 94             | 112  |  |
| Medford                       | 56                           | 97   | 76   | +5  | 188                                 | +30 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 17.78                                  | -0.86  | 95             | 97   |  |
| Roseburg                      | 55                           | 93   | 72   | +4  | 159                                 | +25 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 28.45                                  | -3.97  | 88             | 121  |  |
| NORTH CENTRAL                 |                              |      |      |     |                                     |     |                                |       |      |  |        |                |      |  |
| Condon                        | 48                           | 91   | 69   | +4  | 134                                 | +27 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 11.36                                  | -2.37  | 83             | 95   |  |
| Echo <sup>5</sup>             | 48                           | 99   | 74   | +3  | 171                                 | +19 | 0.02                           | -0.05 | 2    | 5.28                                   | -3.47  | 60             | 105  |  |
| Heppner                       | 53                           | 95   | 72   | +4  | 155                                 | +23 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 10.73                                  | -2.87  | 79             | 106  |  |
| Hermiston                     | 47                           | 99   | 74   | +3  | 167                                 | +15 | -                              | -0.07 | -    | 6.03                                   | -2.72  | 69             | 66   |  |
| John Day                      | 49                           | 92   | 69   | +3  | 137                                 | +14 | -                              | -0.22 | -    | 12.18                                  | -0.78  | 94             | 113  |  |
| Madras <sup>5</sup>           | 46                           | 95   | 70   | +4  | 139                                 | +24 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 9.38                                   | -0.82  | 92             | 110  |  |
| Moro                          | 49                           | 95   | 71   | +5  | 151                                 | +30 | -                              | -0.13 | -    | 8.76                                   | -2.14  | 80             | 96   |  |
| Parkdale <sup>5</sup>         | 45                           | 92   | 67   | +1  | 122                                 | +5  | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 20.41                                  | -10.12 | 67             | 139  |  |
| Pendleton                     | 49                           | 97   | 73   | +2  | 166                                 | +14 | 0.02                           | -0.12 | 1    | 8.82                                   | -2.99  | 75             | 95   |  |
| The Dalles                    | 55                           | 98   | 76   | +10 | 183                                 | +68 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 9.19                                   | -3.10  | 75             | 91   |  |
| SOUTH CENTRAL                 |                              |      |      |     |                                     |     |                                |       |      |  |        |                |      |  |
| Agency Lake <sup>5</sup>      | 46                           | 90   | 67   | +5  | 117                                 | +32 | -                              | -0.21 | -    | 13.39                                  | -2.54  | 84             | 86   |  |
| Bend                          | 42                           | 93   | 67   | +5  | 118                                 | +28 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 12.43                                  | 0.95   | 108            | 80   |  |
| Burns                         | 43                           | 94   | 68   | +5  | 128                                 | +30 | -                              | -0.16 | -    | 12.62                                  | 2.90   | 130            | 99   |  |
| Christmas Valley <sup>5</sup> | 37                           | 92   | 65   | -3  | 104                                 | -15 | 0.02                           | -0.12 | 1    | 10.39                                  | -1.77  | 85             | 94   |  |
| Klamath Falls                 | 47                           | 87   | 66   | +0  | 115                                 | -1  | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 11.43                                  | -1.85  | 86             | 83   |  |
| Klamath Falls <sup>5</sup>    | 46                           | 88   | 67   | +1  | 120                                 | +4  | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 10.69                                  | -2.59  | 80             | 116  |  |
| Lakeview                      | 43                           | 90   | 66   | +2  | 111                                 | +7  | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 7.90                                   | -7.50  | 51             | 65   |  |
| Lorella <sup>5</sup>          | 41                           | 91   | 66   | +0  | 116                                 | +0  | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 12.72                                  | -0.56  | 96             | 126  |  |
| Redmond                       | 39                           | 96   | 67   | +3  | 122                                 | +17 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 9.85                                   | 1.49   | 118            | 87   |  |
| Worden <sup>5</sup>           | 39                           | 90   | 64   | -3  | 99                                  | -17 | -                              | -0.14 | -    | 10.69                                  | -2.59  | 80             | 101  |  |
| NORTHEAST                     |                              |      |      |     |                                     |     |                                |       |      |  |        |                |      |  |
| Baker City                    | 38                           | 98   | 65   | -2  | 108                                 | -3  | -                              | -0.22 | -    | 10.86                                  | 0.34   | 103            | 94   |  |
| Joseph                        | 44                           | 94   | 66   | +7  | 117                                 | +42 | -                              | -0.28 | -    | 18.46                                  | -5.95  | 76             | 130  |  |
| La Grande                     | 39                           | 99   | 67   | -2  | 120                                 | -10 | -                              | -0.21 | -    | 12.00                                  | -5.08  | 70             | 96   |  |
| Prairie City <sup>5</sup>     | 41                           | 93   | 66   | +6  | 110                                 | +41 | -                              | -0.22 | -    | 13.45                                  | -7.01  | 66             | 90   |  |
| Union                         | 41                           | 96   | 67   | +2  | 121                                 | +7  | -                              | -0.21 | -    | 14.54                                  | 1.17   | 109            | 109  |  |
| SOUTHEAST                     |                              |      |      |     |                                     |     |                                |       |      |  |        |                |      |  |
| Ontario                       | 48                           | 98   | 73   | -1  | 164                                 | -1  | -                              | -0.10 | -    | 7.76                                   | -1.70  | 82             | 62   |  |
| Rome                          | 47                           | 97   | 72   | +3  | 155                                 | +18 | 0.01                           | -0.13 | 1    | 8.05                                   | -0.01  | 100            | 75   |  |

<sup>1</sup> Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>2</sup> Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit. <sup>3</sup> Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches. <sup>4</sup> Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2004. <sup>5</sup> Agri-Met weather stations.

DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).  
Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

Summary based on NWS data.

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